

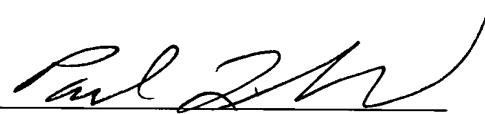
BULTERS et al., 09/989,703

It is respectfully submitted that the present invention is in condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is courteously solicited. However, if any questions remain, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned to expedite the prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,
PILLSBURY WINTHROP LLP

PLS/wdw
1600 Tysons Boulevard
McLean, VA 22102
(703) 905-2000

By



Paul L. Sharer
Reg. No. 36,004
Tel. No.: (703) 905-2180
Fax No.: (703) 905-2500

Enclosure: Appendix

APPENDIX TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 4-5, 12-13, 16-17, 19-21, and 24 have been amended as follows:

4. (Amended) Primary coating composition according to **[any one of claims 2-3]** claim 2 wherein the cavitation strength σ_{cav}^{10} is at least about 1.1 MPa.
5. (Amended) Primary coating composition according to **[anyone of claims 2-4]** claim 2, wherein the composition comprises at least one cross-linking component introducing bimodal distribution into the composition.
12. (Amended) Primary coating **[having an equilibrium modulus of about 1.5 MPa or less]** according to **[anyone of claims 2-6 and claims 9-11]** claim 2, wherein said coating is having a strain energy release rate G_0 of at least about 20 J/m² as measured at a rate of about $1 \cdot 10^{-5} \text{ s}^{-1}$ or less.
13. (Amended) Primary coating composition according to **[anyone of claims 9-12]** claim 9, wherein the composition comprises at least one cross-linking component introducing bimodal distribution into the composition.
16. (Amended) Primary coating according to **[any one of claims 2-6 and 9-15]** claim 2, wherein the equilibrium modulus is about 0.9 MPa or less.
17. (Amended) Coating system for an optical glass fiber comprising a primary coating according to **[any one of claims 2-6 and claims 9-16]** claim 2 and a secondary coating having a volumetric thermal expansion coefficient α_{23} of at least about $3.15 \times 10^{-4} \text{ K}^{-1}$.
19. (Amended) Coated optical fiber comprising a glass optical fiber, a primary coating according to **[claims 2-6 or claims 9-16]** claim 2 applied thereon, a secondary

coating applied on the primary coating and optionally an ink composition applied on the secondary coating.

20. (Amended) Coated optical fiber according to claim 19, wherein **[the] said** secondary coating **[is a coating as defined in claims 17-18]** has a volumetric thermal expansion coefficient α_{23} of at least about $3.15 \times 10^{-4} \text{ K}^{-1}$.

21. (Amended) Optical fiber ribbon comprising a plurality of coated, and optionally colored optical fibers arranged in a plane and embedded in a matrix composition, wherein the coated optical fiber is a fiber according to **[any one of claims 19-20] claim 19**.

24. (Amended) A tensile testing apparatus comprising the assembly according to **[any one of claims 22-23] claim 22**.